Amendments to the Claims

This listing replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

associating areas of a touch interface of a mobile electronic device with ~~letters~~ characters, wherein at least some of the associated areas ~~are defined to~~ overlap with one another to form intermediate regions that represent more than one ~~letter~~character;

detecting a location of a user's touch on ~~said~~ the touch interface; ~~and~~

for each area of ~~said~~ the touch interface which includes ~~said~~ the location, identifying the ~~letter~~character associated therewith; and

wherein for a~~t least one particular letter~~ first character, ~~said~~ the associating comprises associating an area of ~~said~~ the touch interface with ~~said particular letter~~ the first character by joining the centers of ~~letters~~ characters nearest to the ~~particular letter~~ first character.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising~~:~~ if two or more ~~letters~~ characters are identified, using predictive text software to select one of the characters~~determine which of said identified letters said user intended to select~~.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3, further comprising~~:~~ providing ~~said~~ the predictive text software with an indication that ~~said~~ the location is closer to one of ~~said~~ the identified ~~letters~~ characters than to others of ~~said~~ the identified ~~letters~~ characters.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3, further comprising: providing ~~said~~ the predictive text software with an indication of how much closer ~~said~~ the location is to one of ~~said~~ the identified ~~letters~~ characters than to others of ~~said~~ the identified ~~letters~~ characters.

6. (Currently Amended) A mobile electronic device comprising:

one or more touch interfaces to receive a touch by a user;

a ~~means~~ display for displaying one or more rows of ~~letters~~ characters; and

a ~~means~~ microprocessor for associating areas of ~~said~~ the one or more touch interfaces with ~~said~~ the ~~letters~~ characters, wherein at least some of the areas ~~are defined to~~ overlap with one another to form intermediate regions that represent more than one ~~letter;~~ character and ~~a~~ ~~microprocessor configured to identify~~ identifying which ~~letters~~ characters are associated with ~~said~~ the areas of ~~said~~ the one or more touch interfaces that include a location of ~~said~~ the touch;

wherein for ~~at least one particular letter~~ first character, an area of ~~said~~ the one or more touch interfaces associated with ~~said particular letter~~ the first character is bounded by joining the centers of ~~letters~~ characters nearest to the ~~particular letter~~ first character.

7. (Currently Amended) The mobile electronic device of claim 6, wherein ~~said~~ the one or more touch interfaces is a single touchpad.

8. (Currently Amended) The mobile electronic device of claim 7, wherein ~~said~~ the rows of ~~letters~~ characters are spaced at a sufficient vertical distances that there is no ambiguity as to which row of ~~letters~~ characters is being touched.

9. (Currently Amended) The mobile electronic device of claim 6, wherein ~~said~~ the one or more touch interfaces are two or more touchpads.

10. (Currently Amended) The mobile electronic device of claim 6, wherein ~~said~~ the one or more touch interfaces is a single touchscreen.

11. (Currently Amended) The mobile electronic device of claim 10, wherein ~~said~~ the rows of ~~letters~~ characters are spaced at a sufficient vertical distances that there is no ambiguity as to which row of ~~letters~~ characters is being touched.

12. (Currently Amended) The mobile electronic device of claim 10, wherein for ~~at least one particular letter~~ first character, an area of ~~said~~ the touchscreen associated with ~~said~~ the first character ~~particular letter~~ is overlapped by an area of ~~said~~ the touchscreen associated with a different ~~letter~~ character of an adjacent row.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Currently Amended) The mobile electronic device of claim 6, wherein ~~said~~ the microprocessor is configured to execute a predictive text software module to select one of the characters ~~determine which of said identified letters said~~ user intended to ~~select~~.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Currently Amended) A mobile electronic device comprising:

one or more touch interfaces configured to display one or more rows of ~~letters~~ characters and receive a touch by a user; and

a microprocessor configured to associate areas of ~~said~~ the one or more touch interfaces with ~~said letters~~ the characters wherein at least some of the associated areas ~~are defined to~~ overlap with one another to form intermediate regions that represent more than one ~~letter~~ character, and ~~said~~ the microprocessor is further configured to identify which ~~letters~~ characters are associated with ~~said~~ the areas of ~~said~~ the one or more touch interfaces that includes a location of ~~said~~ the touch;

wherein for ~~at least one particular letter~~ first character, an area of ~~said~~ the one or more touch interfaces associated with ~~said~~ the ~~particular letter~~ character is bounded by joining the centers of ~~letters~~ characters nearest to the ~~particular letter~~ character.

23. (Currently Amended) The mobile electronic device of claim 22, wherein ~~said~~ the one or more touch interfaces is a single touchpad.

24. (Currently Amended) The mobile electronic device of claim 23, wherein ~~said~~ the rows of ~~letters~~ characters are spaced at a sufficient vertical distances that there is no ambiguity as to which row of ~~letters~~ characters is being touched.

25. (Currently Amended) The mobile electronic device of claim 22, wherein ~~said~~ the one or more touch interfaces are two or more touchpads.

26. (Currently Amended) The mobile electronic device of claim 22, wherein ~~said~~ the one or more touch interfaces is a single touchscreen.

27. (Currently Amended) The mobile electronic device of claim 26, wherein ~~said~~ the rows of ~~letters~~ characters are spaced at a sufficient vertical distances that there is no ambiguity as to which row of ~~letters~~ characters is being touched.

28. (Currently Amended) The mobile electronic device of claim 26, wherein for ~~at least one particular letter~~ first character, an area of ~~said~~ the touchscreen associated with ~~said particular letter~~ the first character is overlapped by an area of ~~said~~ the touchscreen associated with a different ~~letter~~ character of an adjacent row.

29. (Cancelled)

30. (Cancelled)

31. (Currently Amended) The mobile electronic device of claim 22, wherein ~~said~~ the microprocessor is configured to execute a predictive text software module to select one of the characters ~~determine which of said identified letters said user intended to select~~.

32. (Cancelled)

33. (Cancelled)

34. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium storing instructions for execution by a processor of a mobile device for causing the mobile device to implement a method comprising:

associating areas of a touch interface of a mobile electronic device with ~~letters~~ characters, wherein at least some of the associated areas ~~are defined to~~ overlap with one another to form intermediate regions that represent more than one ~~letter~~ character;

detecting a location of a user's touch on ~~said~~ the touch interface; and

for each area of ~~said~~ the touch interface which includes ~~said~~ the location, identifying the ~~letter~~ character associated therewith; and

wherein for ~~at least one particular letter~~ first character, ~~said~~ the associating comprises associating an area of ~~said~~ the touch interface with ~~said particular letter~~ the first character by joining the centers of ~~letters~~ characters nearest to the ~~particular letter~~ first character.

35. (Currently Amended) The medium of claim [[1]] 34, wherein the method further comprises if two or more ~~letters~~ characters are identified, using predictive text software to select one of the characters ~~determine which of said identified letters said user intended to select~~.

36. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 35, further comprising: providing ~~said~~ the predictive text software with an indication that ~~said~~ the location is closer to one of ~~said~~ the identified ~~letters~~ characters than to others of ~~said~~ the identified ~~letters~~ characters.

37. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 35, further comprising: providing ~~said~~ the predictive text software with an indication of how much closer ~~said~~ the location is to one of ~~said~~ the identified ~~letters~~ characters than to others of ~~said~~ the identified ~~letters~~ characters.

38. (New) A method comprising:

associating areas on a touchscreen display of an electronic device with characters, at least some of the associated areas overlapping with one another at intermediate regions and at least one of the areas established by joining the centers of adjacent areas;

detecting a location of a touch on the touchscreen display; and

identifying the characters associated with the areas in which the touch is located.